



# UB Highlights

Vol. 13, No. 8

News & Events for May 1-15, 2016

## UB Music Senior Recital

*Monday, May 2, 7 p.m.*

Enjoy the performance of *Joyann Foster '16*, clarinet and alto, in the Littlefield Recital Hall of the Bernhard Center. Free and open to all.



## Honors Convocations

*Friday, May 6, all day*

The following events are scheduled to acknowledge the achievements of graduating students:

10:30 a.m., **Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society** induction ceremony, *by invitation only* (Mertens Theater of the Bernhard Center)

11:30 a.m., **School of Arts & Sciences Honors Convocation** (Littlefield Recital Hall of the Bernhard Center)

12:30 p.m. - 6 p.m., **Alumni and Honors reception** (Schelfhaudt Gallery of the Bernhard Center)

1 p.m., **CPIA Honors Convocation** (Room 110 of the Bernhard Center)

1:30 p.m., **Ernest C. Trefz School of Business Honors Convocation and Delta Mu Delta** (duPont Tower Room of the Bernhard Center)

2 p.m., **School of Engineering Honors Convocation** (Social Room of the Student Center)

3:30 p.m., **UPE Ceremony** (Room 113 of the Bernhard Center)

4 p.m., **Pinning Ceremony**, Fones School of Dental Hygiene (Mertens Theater of the Bernhard Center)

5 p.m., **MBA Reception** (Ernest C. Trefz School of Business Lobby)



## 106th Commencement

*Saturday, May 7, 10 a.m.*

Conferral of undergraduate and graduate degrees in the School of Arts & Sciences, Ernest C. Trefz School of Business, School of Education, School of Engineering, Shintaro Akatsu School of Design, College of Public and International Affairs, Physicians Assistant Institute, and Fones School of Dental Hygiene (undergraduate) will take place in the Webster Bank Arena at Harbor Yard, 600 Main Street, Bridgeport. Families and friends of graduates are invited to attend, rain or shine.

## Purple Knights Home Athletic Events

**May 1-15, 2016**

### Baseball

**May 1 (Sun.), 6 p.m., St. Thomas Aquinas @ Harbor Yard**

**May 6 (Fri.), 11 a.m., Dowling @ Harbor Yard**

**May 8 (Sun.), 6 p.m., Dowling @ Harbor Yard**  
[May 12-14, ECC Tournament, details TBA]

### Softball

**April 28-30 (Thurs.-Sat.) ECC Tournament @ NYIT. UB is #4 seed, playing Game 2 on Thursday, April 28, 3:30 p.m.**



## Health Sciences Graduation

*Sunday, May 8, 11 a.m.*

In the Mertens Theater of the Bernhard Center, graduate degrees will be conferred in UB's Division of Health Sciences: Acupuncture Institute, Fones School of Dental Hygiene, Human Nutrition Institute, College of Chiropractic, and College of Naturopathic Medicine. A reception for graduates, families, and friends follows immediately in the Schelfhaudt Gallery of the Bernhard Center.



## Discover Acupuncture Institute

*Thursday, May 12, 5:30-7 p.m.*

Prospective students are invited to explore the graduate programs of UB's Acupuncture Institute (UBAI). Register online for the information session in the Health Sciences Center, with information about programs in Acupuncture, Traditional Chinese Medicine, Chinese Herbology, and the new Doctor of Traditional Chinese Medicine. Students will tour UB's clinic, view a demonstration, and meet UBAI's director and Admissions representatives, who will explain the application process and scholarship opportunities. Register online, or for more information, contact **Leanne Proctor**, 203-576-4552 or [lproctor@bridgeport.edu](mailto:lproctor@bridgeport.edu).



# Looking for Volunteers

Opportunities are available to help with the Commencement ceremony on May 7 in the Arena at Harbor Yard (8 a.m.-1 p.m.) and the Health Sciences Commencement ceremony on May 8 in the Bernhard Center (9:30-11:30 a.m.). Those who would like to volunteer are invited to meet at 11 a.m. on May 3 in the Great Room of the Student Center, with a tour of the Arena at Harbor Yard following immediately. The tour group will meet in front of the Arena, adjacent to the baseball field. For more information, contact Special Events, [specialevents@bridgeport.edu](mailto:specialevents@bridgeport.edu).



## You might have missed. . .

April 5: **Lennie Grimaldi**, journalist and host of *Only in Bridgeport*, spoke in the Discovery Pavilion about his 40 years of writing and interviewing. He told stories about Donald Trump, “Exorcist” star Linda Blair, mob infiltrator Billy Chase, wise guys, Hells Angels, and the FBI, among others. The event was organized by CPIA Mass Communications Professor **Susan Katz**, who has worked closely with Grimaldi for more than 25 years on commercial and political campaigns.

April 7: Bridgeport Mayor **Joseph P. Ganim** and the Downtown Special Services District hosted a reception at the Margaret E. Morton Government Center featuring representative work of our faculty and students from Faculty Research Day. Much of the work exhibited on FRD appears in peer-reviewed journals and at academic conferences and is funded by institutions including NASA, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Department of State’s Fulbright Program, and the National Institutes of Health. However, Bridgeport’s reception was the first occasion that UB research was presented to the general public.

April 15: UB hosted the 2016 National Academic Advising Association’s Connecticut Drive-In. The conference brought together 115 academic advisors, higher education professionals, and graduate students. **Tara Maroney**, assistant director of student advising and communications for UB’s Global Learning Initiatives (GLI), co-chaired the conference, and **Lauren Humphrey**, online student advisor for GLI, served on the planning committee; both also made presentations. **Shannon Sousa**, GLI academic advisor; **Michael Lockshier**, instructional designer; **Jessica DiFoggio**, academic advisor; and **Hannah Wright**, assistant director of graduate and online admissions, also offered presentations.

## FACULTY RESEARCH DAY DOCTORAL STUDENT POSTER AWARDS

On the 2016 Faculty Research Day, Friday, April 1, the following doctoral candidates received awards for their work:

**1st Place:** **Zakareya Lasefr**, Computer Science & Engineering, “Epilepsy Seizure Detection using EEG Signals.” Advisor, **Khaled Elleithy**

**2nd Place:** **Anne-Fried Drath**, Educational Leadership, “Desires to Achieve and Fit In: Social Motives Predict Adjustment to College.” Advisor, **Liane Leedom**

**3rd Place:** **Marwah Almasri**, Computer Science & Engineering, “Fuzzy Logic Control for Autonomous Mobile Robots in Static and Dynamic Environments.” Advisor, **Khaled Elleithy**

**Honorable Mention:** **John (Lalit) Jagtiani**, Technology Management, “Enhancing Software Engineering Curricula by Incorporating Open, Data-driven Planning Methods.” Advisor, **Neal Lewis**

## FACULTY COMPETITIVE POSTER AWARDS

On Faculty Research Day, the following faculty members received recognition for their work:

**Omar Abuzagheh, Ph.D.**, Computer Science & Engineering, “A Portable Real-Time Noninvasive Skin Lesion Analysis System to Assist in the Melanoma Prevention and Early Detection.”

**Liane Leedom, M.D.**, Counseling, “Seeking Validation and Healing: Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence Victims in Psychotherapy.”

**Isaac Macwan**, Biomedical Engineering, “A Novel Nano-biosensor for Colorectal Cancer Diagnostics by Detecting DNA Mismatch Repair Proteins.”

**Nikki Wingate, Ph.D.**, Marketing, “The Influence of the Number of Presented Symptoms in Product-Claim Direct-to-Customer Advertising on Behavioral Intentions.”

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE

**Monday-Friday, May 2-6**, Final Examination Week

**Saturday, May 7**, Commencement

**Monday, May 9**, Final Grades Due

# UB ACHIEVEMENTS & HONORS

## STUDENTS & ALUMNI

### BUSINESS

**Shady Alali** and **Nilesh Shrestha**, Team ZZ373, MBA students in Business Communications class, won the post-secondary division of the Spring 2016 Connecticut Stock Market Game, continuing UB's 12-year run of finishing first, second, or third in every Stock Market Game competition. Team ZZ373, advised by Prof. **Steven Rashba**, beat their closest competitor by almost \$30,000 and outperformed the S&P 500 by 27.82%!

### SASD

**Tong-Jin "TJ" Kim '98**, Industrial Design, won four prizes in the 2015-2016 A' Design Award Competition, including a Platinum A' Design Award for Digital and Electronic Devices, a Silver A' Design Award for Furniture, Decorative Items, and Homeware Design, and two other A' Design Awards for Furniture, Decorative Items, and Homeware Design. Kim holds more than 60 U.S. design patents and is currently an associate professor of industrial design at Purdue University. See more at <https://competition.adesignaward.com/designer.php?profile=142612>

UB Industrial Design students were awarded nearly every prize in the "Designs for Safety" competition at the NY International Auto Show at the Javits Center on April 1. **Jiaxiang Shen** and **Kiaping Zhao** won the \$5,000 Grand Prize for an emergency-alert LED System. **Shuhan Shen** and **Wenyu Xin** won \$2,500 for Double Direction Light, which aims to reduce accidents occurring at blind intersections. The \$1,250 Third Prize went to **Taehoon Park** for Quartrone, an airborne ambulance system; and **Brian Rocks** won the \$1,250 Fifth Prize for the Lug Light, which delivers an alert on various devices when a tire becomes loose.

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR

### HEALTH SCIENCES

**Sunday, May 8**, Commencement

**Friday, May 13**, Last Day of Classes

**Monday-Friday, May 16-20**, Final Examination Week

**Monday, May 23**, Final Grades Due

## FACULTY & STAFF

### ENGINEERING

**Natalie Schriefer**, secretary for the School of Engineering, is also a writer. On April 4, MTV published her essay on gender stereotypes. Read it at <http://www.mtv.com/news/2859490/confessions-of-an-ex-sexist/>

**Jani Macari Pallis**, associate professor of mechanical engineering, has won the Connecticut Technology Council's Women of Innovation Award for Academic Innovation and Leadership, it was announced on April 6. Professor Pallis was recognized for her "devotion of 30 years to reaching pre-college students and teachers, engineering colleagues, university students, and informal educators with her innovative, creative curriculum and projects."

## Student Leadership Awards

*The following leadership awards were presented at ceremonies on April 21:*

President's Award: **Christopher Fantroy**

Scholar Citizen Award: **Natalie Louis**

Advisors of the Year: **Stephen Hess, Jani Pallis**

Excellence in Community Service: **Dominick Pereira**

Outstanding Involvement by a Freshman: **Tracie Slade**

Outstanding Involvement by a Sophomore: **Shannon Blackwood**

Dean's Award: **Michael Asmerom**

Outstanding Involvement by a Graduate Student:

**Kripesh Ramji, Desmond Ntseh**

Campus Program of the Year: **Red Campaign**

Outstanding Club of the Year: **Global Affairs Society**

Outstanding Cultural Club of the Year: **Caribbean Service Association**

Greek Organization of the Year: **Alpha Kappa Alpha**

Greek Member of the Year: **Caitlynn Dufort**

Purple Knight Partnership Award: **Miguel Arroyo, Kyle Buckley**

Shining Knight Spirit Award: **Karlie Spader**

Student Employee of the Year: **James Durrell**

Graduate Assistant of the Year: **Maheshwari Kumar Rakkappan**

**Did we miss something?** *UB Highlights* is published twice monthly during the academic year and monthly in January, June, and July to inform the University community about UB events and achievements. To comment or to list your event or award, e-mail Rebecca Salonen, [UBHighlights@bridgeport.edu](mailto:UBHighlights@bridgeport.edu), or call x4988.